Equal Rights

VOL. XIV, No. 49
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 12, 1929

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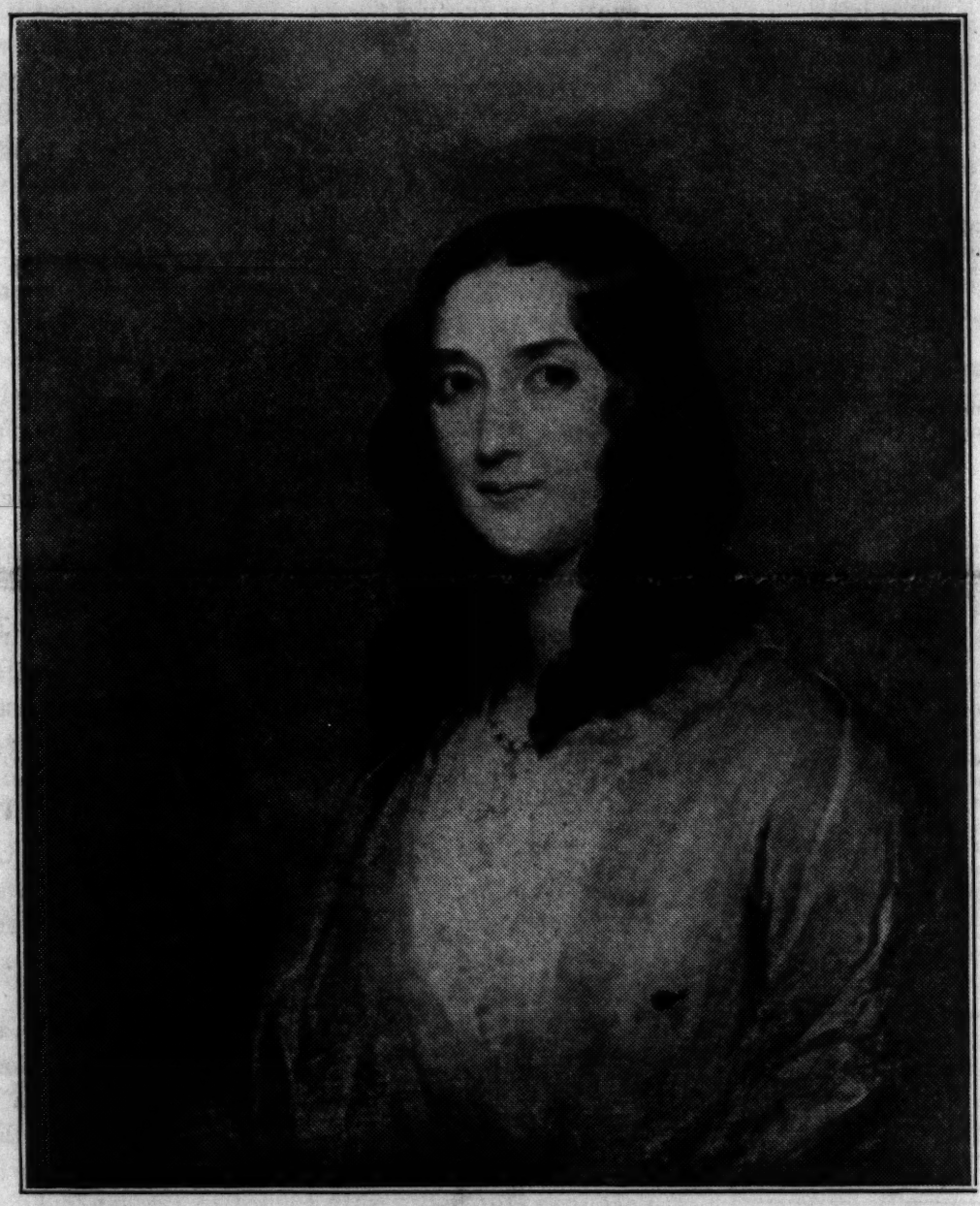

A Pioneer Feminist

Elisabeth Oakes Smith, one of America's earliest women journalists and author of "Woman and Her Needs," an Equal Rights treatise which appeared shortly after the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848. The picture of Mrs. Smith is from a portrait by Henry Truman, distinguished portrait painter of the last century.

Equal Rights

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of the
National Woman's Party
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Baltimore, Md.
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Entered as second-class matter at Postoffice, Baltimore, Md., under Act March 3, 1879.

Subscription, $2.00 a Year

Foreign Subscription, $2.50

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY
The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT
"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."
[Senate Joint Resolution Number 64.]
Introduced in the Senate, January 4, 1928,
by Senator Charles E. Curtis, Kansas.
Introduced in the House, May 18, 1928,
by Representative Frederick W. Magrady, Pennsylvania.

Poor Jean Jacques

"RESEARCHES into abstract and speculative truths, the principles and axioms of science—in short everything which tends to generalize our ideas—is not the proper province of women. All the ideas of women, which have not the immediate tendency to points of duty, should be directed to the study of men, and to the attainment of those agreeable accomplishments which have taste for their object; for as to works of genius, they are beyond their capacity; neither have they sufficient precision or power of attention to succeed in sciences which require accuracy."

Thus wrote Jean Jacques Rousseau, the defender of the rights of man, in 1762, and all the world agreed with him until Mary Wollstonecraft came on the scene. In vain, and alone, she attempted by argument and reason to prove that he was wrong. Her only reward was ridicule and scorn.

But Time judges all men and judges them by the words out of their own mouths. Though we know not what comfort either one of them may have from it, we know in 1929 that Mary Wollstonecraft was right and the unfortunate Jean Jacques wrong. Events have proved it, are proving it, as witness certain unusual scientific researches recently undertaken by women.

Gertrude Caton-Thompson, London archeologist, is exploring the site of the legendary "King Solomon's Mines." Miss Caton-Thompson's objects—supported by the British Association—are "to undertake an examination of the ruins of Zimbabwe or any monument or monuments of the kind in Rhodesia which seem likeliest to reveal the character, date or source of culture of their builders."

Mrs. Oscar S. Straus of New York City has undertaken a three months' expedition into the heart of Africa for the American Museum of Natural History to make a collection of birds in Nyasaland and a study of animals, natives, and types of country in Nyasaland and British East Africa.

Annie J. Cannon of Harvard University Observatory has already completed nine volumes of a catalogue of nearly a quarter of a million stars into forty different divisions according to the abundance of hydrogen, helium, or other gases in the stellar atmosphere.

Poor Jean Jacques, you did not know what was going to happen, although you posed as philosopher, almost as prophet. In the end Time has proven that you did not know. Mary Wollstonecraft was right and you were wrong, and we wonder now whether you would have been glad to see the truth prevail, and we doubt it. Poor Jean Jacques, we rejoice, but we pity you, even as we pity your modern brothers.

Reason Enough

ANTI-FEMINISTS often complain that the National Woman's Party is violating the principle of Equal Rights by its constant insistance upon the recognition of women in every field of endeavor. They insist that we are stressing sex when the very thing we ask for is the obliteration of sex as a measure of capacity.

But they always overlook the fact that it is they themselves, the anti-feminists, who force us to thrust sex so into the foreground.

It is probable that there is at least one woman in the United States who would measure up not unfavorably with some of the "timber" that has gone into the building of cabinets heretofore, yet this is what the New York *Evening Post* says editorially with regard to the demand that a woman be appointed to the circle of Mr. Hoover's official advisers:

"We do not think that the women have upon Mr. Hoover any claim greater than that of any other group of voters. Nor do we see any sign whatever of their 'demanding recognition.' They have not advanced far enough along in the field of politics and government either to have great candidates or to feel that their sex deserves special appointments. Were we in Mr. Hoover's place we would ignore this artificial 'demand' from the women and proceed to choose a Cabinet without a woman member."

So much for the advice of the anti-feminists. They would leave sex out, and they would leave women out, too; out of the Cabinet, out of politics, out of life generally, save in their own homes or kitchens where they find women such a convenience.

We had supposed that the New York *Evening Post* would wish Mr. Hoover to choose the best people he could find for Cabinet members, but apparently not, if the best person happens to be a woman.

A Pioneer for Women's Rights

THE story of the work of Elisabeth Oakes Smith as one of the pioneers for Equal Rights between men and women in the United States is furnished EQUAL RIGHTS by Cecile Camille Martin Harris, whose husband is of Mrs. Smith's family.

Mrs. Smith, as author, lecturer, and preacher, advocated women's rights. She was born in Cumberland, Maine, on August 12, 1806, the descendant of New England Puritan settlers. When quite young, she married Seba Smith, a distinguished journalist, with whom she frequently collaborated in her early work for the press.

Mrs. Smith's first work was for newspapers, and she wrote constantly for the press after her marriage. Encouraged by her success in journalism, she went on to more ambitious work. For three years she supervised the annual issue of the *Mayflower* of Boston, Massachusetts.

In 1842 Mrs. Smith moved with her husband to New York City where she not only continued her literary work, but made a new and courageous departure by appearing on the lecture platform. Some claim that she was the first woman to speak in this way before an American audience, but complete facts on this question are lacking.

In later years she preached in several churches, and was for a time pastor of an independent congregation in Canastota, New York.

After her husband's death in 1868, she moved to Holywood, South Carolina, where she lived and worked until her death in 1893.

Mrs. Smith published her first volume of poems in 1838, under the title, "Riches Without Wings." This was followed by "The Sinless Child" and other poems in 1843. Stories for children, a five-act tragedy called "The Roman Tribute," another drama, "Jacob Zeisler," and several novels, and other stories, plays, and poems were published in the years from 1847 to 1867.

"Woman and Her Needs" was her first volume dealing directly with the subject always near to her heart. This was published in 1851. The next year she went to a subject that doubtless was more popular—"Hints On Dress and Beauty." A volume on "The Sanctity of Marriage" and one on "Old New York, or Democracy In 1689," were other works on social topics aside from her novels and poems.

Her writings were extremely popular, it is said.

The picture of Mrs. Smith is from a painting by Henry Truman, who painted many portraits of distinguished writers in England and the United States, including Wordsworth and Macaulay.

An Old Story Retold

LIKENESS and differences in the situation of French women to-day and American women before the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment are revealed as one glances through the November issue of *Le Droit des Femmes*.

Frenchwomen have not only to obtain woman suffrage, but to defeat "family suffrage," which proposes to give fathers of families extra votes. "Marital authority" still controls the action of the married woman. A correspondent inquires why, if a wife has the right to her husband's name, a mistress is not prohibited from using it during the wife's lifetime. *Le Droit des Femmes* informs her that theoretically the wife may have the mistress enjoined from using it, but that she would have to have her husband's authorization in order to make a complaint, and it would probably be difficult to get it!

A new French magazine has started a discussion on "rational Feminism" and "fanatical Feminism." It asks where the first ends and the second begins. *Le Droit des Femmes* replies that fanatical Feminism is merely the Feminism of rational people exasperated by people impervious to reason.

"On the 10th of next April it will be *sixty years* since the first number of the paper *Le Droit des Femme* appeared. In 1930 the Ligue Francaise pour le Droit des Femmes will be sixty years old, and all this time its action has been consistently reasoned and rational. Sixty years! When after such an effort, one ends up with a Senator who 'buckles his shield in order not to let one of our arguments get through' it is manifest that there is nothing left to Feminists except a change of tactics. Militancy is the correct thing when reason loses its rights."

This is oddly like Harriot Stanton Blatch's retort in 1916 to the political speaker who had just said that women must be patient, "Patient? I've been patient for sixty years!" And like Lavina Dock's remark, made while she was hunger-striking as a suffrage prisoner in 1918, "This is an illogical thing we're doing, but we are dealing with such an illogical set of men."

Equal Opportunites in Aviation

AVIATION offers women equal opportunities with men, according to Olive Branch Williams, the only woman head of an aviation school. Miss Williams is president of the Aviation Engineering School of New York City, which is one of the very few recognized by the Government as giving thorough and practical courses in aviation and allied subjects.

Miss Williams, a slim, young, dark-eyed Southern woman, is an experienced pilot. More than that, she has a practical knowledge of the mechanical structure of planes. She can take a plane apart and put it together again correctly.

"I have found happiness in flying," she said in an interview published in the *Christian Science Monitor*. "To me it is always a fascinating and thrilling experience, but I am glad that I am not only a pilot but am actively helping to promote one of the greatest industries of the day. I believe that a knowledge of aviation is so important that women cannot afford to stay ignorant of it.

"Very recently the chamber of commerce of a New Jersey coast city asked me to send them a girl with a thorough knowledge of planes and flying. One of our graduates qualified and answered the call. They pay her a fine salary and she lives at the best hotel in the city. She uses her plane much as other women use their automobiles but she keeps it at the shore where it attracts considerable attention. She attracts attention too. It is still unusual to find a young attractive, cultured woman handling and using a plane skillfully. She is able to explain everything about her plane and its uses, consequently she is interesting people who are willing and able to subscribe toward the city's airport. That particular chamber of commerce is planning for the future and so are many others. Women therefore are getting more and more calls for promoting an interest in aviation.

"Fortunately, women who are attracted to this science are instinctively cautious pilots and thorough aviators. Once they interest themselves in a project they push it to the utmost of their ability. Perhaps that is why airplane manufacturers are

putting women on their sales forces. One of the largest of the airplane manufacturers has a woman at the head of its sales department.

"How can women fit themselves for such positions?" Miss Williams repeated the question thoughtfully. "Naturally I can best answer that by telling you just how we train them at the Aviation Engineering School. In our school every student, man or woman, learns to build planes and do engine and mechanical work 'by doing.' The planes in our school room in New York are being built by pupils under the direction of experienced engineers. They are made of government-approved materials and when finished are usable and salable ships. But building a plane is only part of the work, for we teach every branch of aeronautics, such as aeronautical engineering, aircraft drafting, engine and airplane mechanics, airplane welding, airplane machine shop practice, meteorology, navigation, aerodynamics, *et cetera.* At Curtis Field, Long Island, where the school has its hangar, we teach the actual flying. All or part of these courses are given according to the type of license the pupil is working for—because, of course we prepare them for every type of government license.

"The qualification for beginning a complete ground course of theoretical and practical aviation we might say should be at least two years of high school, at least two years of mathematics consisting of algebra, plane and solid geometry, trigonometry, and at least two years of mechanical drawing. Meeting those requirements, it takes the average student two years to complete a full course in aviation and a shorter time for those having college credits in other lines of engineering. You see there is a great deal more to being a successful pilot than learning to fly. Piloting a plane is the easiest part of the work, yet women who merely want to learn to fly come to our school for that part of the training alone and in a comparatively short time can handle a plane.

"Whether it is considered a sport, a hobby, or a vocation, aviation offers women equal opportunities with men. In fact I believe it offers bigger opportunities to cultured, educated and trained women than any other modern industry."

Women in Industry in Russia

WOMEN have won for themselves a firm position not only in Government offices and public organizations, but also in the industries, says the *Soviet Union Review* for December.

They have penetrated branches of industry which before the Revolution were closed to them altogether. Moreover, in a great number of cases women occupy responsible positions in the capacity of directors and managers of factories and plants. Experience has proved that they are just as capable of taking care of the complex problems of industrial management as men.

The following biographies of a few women directors testify to the considerable success of the women's movement in the Soviet Union and portray the surroundings from which women are working up to leading positions in industries.

Last year a working woman, Mrs. Bogdanova, was placed at the head of the textile factory "Krasny Mayak." From 1912 to 1918, she worked in one of the Petrograd tobacco factories, first as an apprentice, and later as a sorter of cigarettes. Since 1918, Mrs. Bogdanova has been taking a prominent part in public activities in which she is still engaged. In 1926, she was appointed assistant to the director of the textile factory, "Rabochi," and at present she has been placed at the head of the large textile factory "Krasny Mayak."

Under Mrs. Bogdanova's management the factory has been placed on a more efficient basis; a number of new departments have been organized, and an energetic campaign is being conducted against unjustifiable absences and idling on the job. Last year the factory turned out 10,000,000 meters of fabrics and 3,500,000 kilograms of yarn.

Another woman director is Mrs. Kozlovskaya, who is in charge of the giant spinning mill "Sovietskaya Zvyezda" in Leningrad, in which two thousand textile workers are employed. Mrs. Kozlovskaya was born in the family of a weaver. Since the age of fourteen she has been working in the textile industry where she started as an apprentice at the wage of 35 kopecks (18 cents) per day. Until the November Revolution of 1917, she was employed as a regular worker in a textile factory. Since 1918, she has advanced to responsible work in the trade union movement, as chairman of factory committees, as member of the Central Committee of the Textile Workers Union, *et cetera.* After having worked for a year and a half in the capacity of assistant to the director of a textile factory, she was appointed director of the "Sovyetskaya Zvyezda" factory, a post which she is successfully filling at present.

Not less interesting is the personality of the working woman, Mrs. Korobayeva, who had been working in factories for fifteen years. At present she occupies the post of assistant manager of the "Samoilov" plant—the only curtain and tulle factory in Moscow. Four and a half million meters of tulle products which are being annually turned out by the Samoilov factory testify to the complexity of the enterprise which is now being managed by the textile worker, Mrs. Korobayeva.

Not only in the textile industry in which women's work predominates have the working women of the Soviet Union succeeded in obtaining controlling positions. They can boast of similar achievements in other branches of industry as well.

What Working Women Want

THE campaign of working women for equality in industrial legislatios, which has been going on for eleven years, is described in a letter of introduction Ruth Litt carried with her on her recent trip to Europe, Eastern Asia, and Northern Africa.

This letter is on the stationery of "Equal Rights, An Educational and Speakers' Bureau," and is signed by two women members of the greatest typographical union local in New York City, who are officers of the bureau, Ada R. Wolff and Clara S. Scott, and by Maud Williams, secretary of the Bureau. Mrs. Wolff is chairman of the bureau.

The letter said:

"Through the bearer, Mrs. Ruth Litt, of 71 Park Avenue, New York City, New York State, United States of America, wage-earning women of the United States who are working for complete equality in industry and the professions extend greetings to their sister wage earners across the sea.

"For the past eleven years groups of women, in the professions and in both skilled and unskilled industrial operations, organized and unorganized, have carried on a campaign of education regarding the harmful effects of restricting the earning power and limiting opportunities to earn of women by means of legislation classing them with children; by the printed word, by speeches before women's clubs, political organizations, legislatures, etc., we have shown the hypocrisy of "protecting" women by legally establishing them on a wage plane with children, thus allowing men a com-

plete monopoly of all skilled jobs and high wage scales.

"In this work Mrs. Litt has been closely associated with the members of Equal Rights Association and the Women's Equal Opportunity League, and, at our solicitation, joined the National Woman's Party, the better to further our aims. Mrs. Litt is a member of the New York League of Business and Professional Women, one of whose affiliated bodies, the Conference Club, is unanimously on record against labor legislation based on sex, while the Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Missouri, Federations of the League have been and now are vigorously fighting any legal handicap to women entering the business world and insisting that working conditions and hours shall be for all the workers, not for a sex.

"Mrs. Litt's grasp of our problem is perfect; she has been present at our meetings, she has listened to the tales of hardships suffered by wage-earning women trying to support themselves and dependents in a world where rents, food and necessities are priced according to the high wage scales of men, while women's wage scale, due to handicaps imposed by law, is an average half that of men—and she is convinced that the most important task for the women of the entire world, whether actual or potential wage earners, is to secure firmly, once and for all, a safe place in the industrial and business world for any woman, at any time, on the same terms and with the same working conditions as the men with whom she must compete; all necessary regulations to be placed on the industry, not upon the employees.

"Time, the great adjuster, is on our side, but meanwhile eternal vigilance is still the price of liberty. Our fighting spirit reaches across the sea to all the members and sympathizers with the Open Door."

Women of St. Elizabeth's Staff

THE value of having women on the boards directing governmental institutions is seen in the history of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, formerly the Government Hospital for the Insane.

In 1877 Mrs. A. M. Gangwer was appointed to the Board of Visitors of the hospital by President Hayes. Mrs. Gangwer from the beginning of her connection with the institution planned for a woman physician on the staff. It was not until Dr. William A. White, still the distinguished head of this institution, came to St. Elizabeth's as its superintendent in 1903 that Mrs. Gangwer's dreams were realized. Within a year Dr. White had asked the Civil Service Commission to create a position for a woman, and to hold a competitive examination for it. Dr. Mary O'Malley qualified, and was appointed in 1905. Dr. O'Malley has been with St. Elizabeth's ever since, and is now clinical director of the hospital. She is chairman of the Physicians' Council of the National Woman's Party.

Before Mrs. Gangwer's death in 1907, she had seen another woman, Dr. Edith Conser-Smith, added to the staff, and it is told that in her last hours Mrs. Gangwer rallied repeatedly to comment on the gratifying results of her thirty years' campaign to have women physicians appointed to the staff of St. Elizabeth's.

Thirty-four women have been appointed to the staff since Dr. O'Malley's appointment, and of these twenty-one have remained in psychiatry, says the *Medical Woman's Journal*. There are now six women on the women's service of the hospital, a woman interne on the medical-surgical service, and a woman director of the out-patient service.

The women who left the institution have, to a large extent, gone to other hospitals or public institutions to do psychiatric work, and several are in private practice and in research work.

Those now on the staff at St. Elizabeth's Hospital are Dr. Mary O'Malley, Dr. Lois D. Hubbard, Dr. Amy N. Stannard, Dr. Harriet E. Twombly, Dr. Agnes Conrad, Dr. Elizabeth R. Vann, Dr. Anna C. Dannemann, and Dr. Winifred Whitman-Tuve.

In commenting on the results of Mrs. Gangwer's work, Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen says in an editorial in the *Medical Women's Journal* for August, 1928:

"In this issue of the *Journal* Dr. Agnes Conrad has written an article on 'Women of the Staff of St. Elizabeth's Hospital.' It is a wonderful bit of history of medical women—a glorious news letter and a document bearing witness to what it means to medical women to have hospital staff appointments. In addition to this she gives credit and honor to a lay woman by whose effort it was all brought about.

"Mrs. A. M. Gangwer, to whom Dr. Conrad gives the honor of securing appointments for women physicians on the staff of St. Elizabeth's Hospital in 1905, belongs to a group of women who should receive special recognition from the women physicians of all countries. It is true that laywomen as a class have done little to encourage and promote the woman physician; on the other hand, individual laywomen have not only shown their loyalty, but have given freely of their time, their money and their influence.

"Johns Hopkins Medical School would not yet be open to women in all probability had it not been for a woman who endowed that institution only on condition that women students should be admitted on an equality with men students.

"In Chicago Dr. Mary Thompson would not have been able to establish the Women's and Children's Hospital without the aid of Mrs. Dyas, the wife of one of Chicago's leading physicians at that time.

"So important has been the work of certain laywomen in making broad and lasting foundations for women in medicine, that any history of medical women would have many blank pages if their names were omitted.

"During the coming year an effort will be made to publish some interesting articles on the role of the laywoman in the history of medical women, and while doing this the *Journal* will be doing its bit to pay homage where homage is due."

Equal Pay and the I. L. O.

NORA BROWNRIGG, organizing secretary of the Open Door Council (England) calls our attention to an error in the article, "Equal Pay Subordinated," in the September 1 issue of EQUAL RIGHTS.

This article quoted a summary of the points of view of English Feminists on the fact that the International Labor Organization's Conference on Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery had merely "called the attention" of the governments belonging to the League of Nations that the Versailles Treaty had provided for equal pay for equal work instead of placing the principle directly in the convention machinery for fixing minimum wages.

Without attempting to correct our previous article, paragraph by paragraph, as such an effort would involve too complicated a discussion, we publish herewith a copy of the letter circulated by leaders of British Feminist organizations to the delegates to the League of Nations Assembly, which makes perfectly clear the situation and the reaction of English Feminists to it. The error of EQUAL RIGHTS lay in summarizing a summary, and we regret the error.

The letter to League of Nations delegates follows:

"Knowing that the Council and the Assembly of the League of Nations have a special responsibility in securing that the principles of the peace treaties are

fully observed, we venture to bring the following facts to your attention.

"As you are aware, States members of the League of Nations by Article 23 (a) of the Covenant of the League undertook to 'endeavor to secure and maintain fair and humane conditions of labor for men, women, and children.' And by Parts XIII of the treaties of Versailles, Trianon, St. Germain, and Part XII of the Treaty of Neuilly the International Labor Organization was established and certain general principles formulated.

"Among the methods and principles laid down in the labor section of the treaties as well fitted to guide the policy of the League of Nations are:

> "'Fourth: The adoption of an eight-hour day or a forty-eight-hour week as the standard to be aimed at where it has not already been attained.'"
>
> "'Fifth: The adoption of a weekly rest of at least twenty-four hours which should include Sunday wherever practicable.'"
>
> "'Seventh: The principle that men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value.'"
>
> (*See Treaty of Versailles, Article* 427: *and the corresponding article and paragraph of the Labor Section of the treaties of St. Germain, Trianon and Neuilly.*)

"*The fourth* was recognized by the Washington Hours Convention providing for an eight-hour day and a forty-eight-hour week. It is true that there are in that convention certain modifications for certain countries. But such modifications are made possible by Article 405 of the Treaty of Versailles (and the corresponding article of the Labor Section of the treaties of St. Germain, Trianon and Neuilly) which provides that any modifications shall be definitely included in a convention.

"*The fifth* was recognized by the adoption by the International Labor Organization at its conference in Geneva (October, 1921) of a convention concerning a weekly rest in industrial undertakings.

"*The seventh* came into question at the last meeting of the International Labor Organization in Geneva, May-June, 1928, when for the first time a convention affecting wages was presented for adoption. This minimum wage fixing machinery convention was adopted without any reference in the convention itself to 'the principle that men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value.' The fact that this principle is germane was recognized by the conference itself, inasmuch as a reference to equal pay was included in the recommendation attached to the convention. But as you are aware a recommendation attached to a convention has no binding force on any country which may ratify that convention. (*See paragraphs 7 and 8 of Article 405 of the Treaty of Versailles and the corresponding paragraph and article of the treaties of St. Germain, Trianon and Neuilly.*)

"In view of the fact that States members of the League have pledged their honor to the observance of the principles of the labor section of the peace treaties, the question arises for them as to whether the International Labor Organization was competent to adopt a convention not based on one of the general principles clearly enunciated for its guidance.

"This question of competence should be answered, and the Permanent Court of International Justice is the one body which can answer it.

"It is within the power of the Assembly or Council of the League of Nations to ask for advisory opinions on such questions under the following sections of the treaties:

> "'Any question or dispute relating to the interpretation of this part of the present treaty or of any subsequent convention concluded by the members in pursuance of the provisions of this part of the present treaty shall be referred for decision to the permanent Court of International Justice.'
>
> (*See Article* 423: *Treaty of Versailles and the corresponding articles of the labor section of the treaties of St. Germain, Trianon and Neuilly.*)
>
> "'The court may also give an advisory opinion upon any dispute or question referred to it by the Council or by the Assembly.'
>
> (*See Article* 14 *of the Covenant of the League of Nations.*)

"Already the court has given several such advisory opinions as to the competence of the International Labor Organization, including the following:

"At its first session, 1922, the court held that the International Labor Organization

"(a) Was competent to regulate the conditions of labor of persons employed in agriculture

(b) That it was not competent to examine proposals for the organization of agricultural production.

"At its eleventh session, 1926, the court gave an advisory opinion that the International Labor Organization

"(c) Was competent to draw up and propose labor legislation which, in order to protect certain classes of workers, also regulates incidentally the same work when performed by the employer himself.

"The convention as adopted does not provide that the minimum wage fixing machinery shall be such as to fix different minimum wage rates for men and women. The further question, therefore, arises. Can legislation passed to implement the convention set up wage fixing machinery which can fix a minimum wage rate for men and another rate lower than this minimum for women?

"It is open to any States member of the League of Nations to raise these questions before the Assembly which has power to resolve that an advisory opinion of the Permanent Court of International Justice shall be taken on them.

"These principles are solemnly laid down in the Peace Treaties. They are not merely words. The eight-hour day and the weekly rest have already been incorporated in conventions of the International Labor Organization. This principle of 'equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value'—an elementary measure of justice for the millions of women now employed in the world's labor market—has the same legal force and States members of the League are equally bound in honor to give it effect. They cannot treat it as an empty form.

"The responsibility of ensuring the honorable observance of every guarantee offered by the treaties rests upon each delegate to the Assembly. We urge you to give your most earnest consideration not only to the facts we have given above, but to all the implications involved therein, and to do all in your power to ensure that a resolution shall be adopted by the Assembly asking that the Permanent Court of International Justice shall be asked for its advisory opinion.

"We would suggest that the following points should be laid before the court for its opinion:

"(1) Is the International Labor Organization competent to draw up and propose legislation affecting the fixing of rates of wages which may impose a rate of wages not based on 'the principle that men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value'?

"(2) Is the International Labor Organization competent to draw up and propose the Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery Convention which purports to have been adopted in Geneva in June, 1928, inasmuch as such convention is not based on the principle that men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value?

"(3) Will any legislation adopted by a country pursuant to such country's ratification of the Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery Convention be an effective carrying out of its obligations under the seventh paragraph of *Article* 405 *of the Treaty* of Versailles (and the corresponding paragraph of the corresponding article of the labor section of the

treaties of St. Germain, Trianon and Neuilly) if the machinery under such legislation permits the fixing of minimum wage rates not based on 'the principle that men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value?'

"Women all over the world look to the League to establish justice for both men and women as well as for the nations, and to see that effect is given to this great principle of equality which was definitely incorporated in the peace treaties. Goodwill and tranquillity can only be secured by the just dependence of every element in the community on the fair and impartial interpretation by the League of Nations of the great principles which were adopted at its inception."

This letter was signed by Elizabeth Abbott, chairman of the Open Door Council; Helen Douglas-Irvine, chairman of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance; Ethel E. Froud, general secretary of the National Union of Women Teachers; E. Knight, M. B., honorary treasurer of the Women's Freedom League; Chrystal Macmillan, chairman of the International Committee of the Open Door Council; and Lady Rhondda, chairman of the Six Point Group.

Press Comment

Women Score New Advances During 1928

Herald-Tribune, New York City, December 30, 1928.

WOMEN of the country made the year 1928 memorable for the part they took in politics.

The feminine political strength, which has been accumulating since women obtained the vote universally in the United States eight years ago, had a chance to make itself felt because of the Presidential election. And the women left no stone unturned. They were on the lecture platform, on the air and at home in political headquarters of both parties, where special rooms were set aside for them.

Not only were various women's organizations working zealously for one or the other Presidential candidates, but big organizations like the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the League of Women Voters concentrated on getting women to the polls, regardless of what party they favored. They played a prominent part in getting out a record-breaking number of voters.

The federation has campaigned for years for a larger and more intelligent vote. The last year, through its department of American citizenship, it conducted a $1,000 essay contest in grade and high schools on "Why I Should Vote." Virtually every State in the Union participated. The League of Women Voters reached 25,000,000 persons through its weekly radio "Voters' Service," which began broadcasting ten months before election.

Support women of the country gave the Kellogg multilateral peace treaty was outstanding during the year. Since the promulgation of the treaty the club women, through their department of international relations, has been working for ratification by the United States Senate. Thousands of petitions, signed with hundreds of thousands of names, have been circulated by the 14,000 member clubs and placed in the hands of the nation's lawmakers.

Another step forward by women in 1928 was the creation of the Inter-American Commission of Women at the Sixth Pan-American Conference in Havana last spring to investigate the legal status of women in all countries of North and South America with a view to establishing uniform laws. Miss Doris Stevens was appointed chairman.

The creation of the commission came about through a suggestion by the National Woman's Party. The latter organization interjected "Equal Rights for women" as an issue in the campaign. Its members put on an active campaign for Herbert Hoover, concentrating their efforts in New York City.

On November 6 three additional women were elected to the House of Representatives. They were Mrs. Ruth Hanna McCormick, daughter of the late Mark Hanna and widow of the late Senator Medill McCormick of Illinois; Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen, daughter of the late William Jennings Bryan, and Mrs. Ruth Baker Pratt, the first woman to be sent to Congress from New York.

In the field of adventure and discovery women have accomplished much. Mrs. Harriet Adams, president of the International Society of Women Geographers, completed her world trail, over which she had followed the path of every great conquistador of Spain and Portugal. Much valuable information was obtained and will be put in book form. Mrs. Zelia Nuttall, another member of the society, revived the beautiful Sun Festival in Mexico, which had lapsed for four centuries.

News from the Field

National Council to Meet

THE National Council of the National Woman's Party will meet at National Headquarters in Washington on Tuesday, January 15. The council will discuss the Equal Rights measures to be introduced in the various State Legislatures meeting this year.

Lucretia Mott's Birthday

MEMBERS of the National Woman's Party placed a wreath on the bust of Lucretia Mott in the Feminist group in the crypt of the Capitol on the 136th anniversary of Mrs. Mott's birth on January 3. Adelaide Johnson, sculptor of the statue of Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, was among the group of Woman's Party members who placed the wreath on the statue. Others in the group were Mary Moss Wellborn, Louise Wier, Burnita Shelton Matthews, and Millie V. Roehrer. The Woman's Party gave this Feminist statue to the United States.

League Assembly Urges Appointment of Women

THE Assembly of the League of Nations has adopted the resolution previously adopted by the Fifth Commission of the League, urging the appointment of women delegates to the Conference on the Codification of International Law to be convened this year by the League of Nations Committee for the Progressive Codification of International Law.

The resolution reads:

"The assembly, considering that the question of nationality which is on the agenda of the conference is of special interest to women, and that Article 7 of the Covenant embodies the principle that all positions under or in connection with the League shall be open equally to men and women, expresses the hope that the members of the League, when invited to the forthcoming conference, will consider the desirability of taking these considerations into account in composing their delegations."

Doris Stevens, chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women and also of the Committee on International Action of the National Woman's Party, urged

the Fifth Commission to adopt the resolution calling for the appointment of women to this important conference at which the nationality of women is to be discussed. The resolution is not as strong as she proposed, but it was hailed everywhere as a great Feminist victory, and Feminist organizations in various countries immediately began to urge upon their respective governments the appointment of qualified women to represent the interests of women in this conference at which questions of such importance to women are to be discussed and probably decided.

At a time when the nationality of women is subject to such varying laws throughout the world, most of the laws being unfair to women, it is important that an international agreement for the establishment of equality in nationality laws all over the world be made. Feminist organizations everywhere and many men's organizations are urging that women have the same right to retain their own nationality after marriage as men have.

Maryland Inaugurates Legislative Program

ALONG with the legislative activities of the Woman's Party which began January 2 with Dora G. Ogle as chairman, the Maryland Branch will give a women jurors dinner on Friday, January 18, in order to further the interest of the Jury Service bill.

Amelia Himes Walker will preside and Mollye H. Rollman, chairman of the entertainment committee, is working on the various details. The speakers will be men and women of prominence, among whom will be Emilie A. Doetsh, assistant city solicitor; Helen Elizabeth Brown, brilliant young lawyer, and the Honorable Oscar de la Barra, Chilean consul.

The women's organizations and clubs of Baltimore will be asked to send representatives, and each table will be presided over by a member of the branch acting as hostess.

Officer Marries

ANITA L. POLLITZER of South Carolina, national vice-chairman of the National Woman's Party, and Elie Edson were married in Chicago on December 29. Mr. Edson is press representative for Morris Gest's production of Tolstoy's play, "Redemption," which was being shown in Chicago at the time of the marriage. Miss Pollitzer has been teaching art in Columbia University, and was formerly an instructor in fine arts at the University of Virginia.

"I am naturally keeping my own name," wired Miss Pollitzer to National Headquarters the day of her marriage. Miss Pollitzer was among the youngest workers for the suffrage amendment, and has been working for the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment since the National Woman's Party was reorganized in 1921 to establish equality between men and women throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.

Women Ask Lehman's Aid

COLONEL HERBERT H. LEHMAN, Lieutenant Governor of New York State, was asked recently by members of the Industrial Council of the National Woman's Party to give his support to the Equal Rights bills that will be introduced in the 1929 Legislature.

One bill to be pressed would provide for an amendment to the Labor law to exempt women restaurant workers from the provision prohibiting the employment of women in restaurants after 10 P. M. Mrs. Mary A. Murray and Mrs. Frances G. Roberts, who placed the demands before Colonel Lehman, said women restaurant workers were opposed to all so-called "protective" laws for women workers and are particularly affected by the night work law which makes it impossible for them to profit from the higher pay and shorter hours of the night shift which ends at midnight.

Colonel Lehman was told that the restaurant workers were anxious to be placed in the same position as other groups of women in industrial employments, such as proofreaders, printers, writers and reporters in newspaper offices who have already obtained exemption.

The National Woman's Party will give active support to measures providing mandatory jury service for women; for giving married women the right to choose their own legal domicile for purposes of voting, office-holding and taxation; for equal guardianship of children and for the removal of discriminations against women school teachers in New York State.

Another New Jersey Equal Rights Bill

ASSEMBLYMAN JOHN C. BARBOUR of Passaic County will introduce a bill in the 1929 Legislature of New Jersey to relieve the husband of liability for his wife's torts, and thus increase equality of rights and opportunity between men and women.

Mr. Barbour is a lawyer and his intent had its inception in a recent case of his where, with apparent injustice to the husband, the law insisted upon the latter's liability for harm done by his wife, over whom in actual fact he had no control. This rule is part of the old common law which considered the two spouses to be one, "and the husband was that one."

It will be remembered that in those days the wife had no identity in law of her own. Her husband owned her property, directed her course of action, absorbed her legal personality. Gradually over the years a married woman has, however, achieved more and more freedom. The married women's property act of 1857 gave her by statute the right to her separate estate. Acts of recent years, largely put through in New Jersey by the National Woman's Party, give her ownership of her earnings, within and without the home; equal guardianship and testamentary rights regarding her children; the right to act as guarantor or surety, and the right to select her own domicile.

On Judiciary Committee

GAIL LAUGHLIN, member of the Maine House of Representatives and a vice-chairman of the National Woman's Party, was appointed a member of the Judiciary Committee of the Maine House when the Legislature convened on January 3. Miss Laughlin is the first woman to be appointed to this important committee of the Maine House of Representatives. She is a distinguished lawyer and Feminist, and is one of Portland's representatives in Maine's Lower House.

Two Million Dollar Fund

Treasurer's Report

EMMA WOLD, *Treasurer*
NETTIE TRAIL, C. P. A., *Auditor*

*Receipts collected by National Headquarters December 7, 1912, to December 16, 1928, $1,467,186.81.

Contributions, membership and other receipts, December 16, 1928, to January 1, 1929:

District Branch	$100.00
Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, N. Y.	75.00
Miss Mabel K. Corbould, Ohio	6.00
Mrs. Emile Berliner, D. C.	5.00
Mrs. Wymond Bradbury, D. C.	5.00
Miss Grace Osgood, D. C.	5.00
Miss Maud Younger, Cal.	1.00
Miss Blondelle Malone, D. C.	1.00
Miss Esther McLaughlin, N. Y.	1.00
Mrs. Burnita Shelton Matthews, Miss.	10.00
Miss Gertrude Crocker, Va.	25.00
Mrs. H. Corning, N. J.	10.00
Mrs. Ruth Litt, N. Y.	360.00
Miss Jessie Dell, D. C.	10.00
Mrs. Lucy Cooper Shaw, D. C.	7.50
Mrs. Mary Adams, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. Lloyd Williams, N. Y.	25.00
Mrs. Gertrude James Robey, Va.	50.00
Mrs. T. Duncan Just, Pa.	5.00
Mrs. Hennie Strouse, N. Y.	1.00
Mrs. Dwight Clark, D. C.	50.00
Refunds	2.50
Sale of "Jailed for Freedom"	22.00
EQUAL RIGHTS subscriptions (forwarded to EQUAL RIGHTS office)	30.00
Rent of rooms at Headquarters	284.00
Total receipts, December 16, 1928, to January 1, 1929	$1,092.00
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to January 1, 1929	$1,468,278.81

*The total published December 29, 1928, $1,467,186.81, includes refunds of $2.75 not listed in receipts.

DAY PRINTING COMPANY
Printers
600 EAST LOMBARD STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.

Subscribe for EQUAL RIGHTS
$2.00 a Year
19 West Chase Street, Baltimore, Md.